



Door County Health and Human Services

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Dear Door County School Officials and Families,

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has adopted the new CDC quarantine modifications, effective Monday, Dec 7. Door County Public Health will begin allowing these modifications on Monday Dec 7.

The modifications were formulated by the CDC to reduce burdens and increase compliance with quarantining. However, current scientific information supports that the incubation period of COVID-19 is 14 days. Meaning individuals exposed can develop symptoms and then infect others in that two-week time period.

Both the CDC and DHS indicate that quarantine for the full 14 days after the time of exposure remains the safest strategy for prevention of transmission of COVID-19. They also state that shorting quarantine duration is not appropriate for all settings, such as high-risk, congregate settings i.e. long-term care facilities, shelters, jails.

When speaking with close contact of individuals affected by COVID, we will continue to recommend the 14 day quarantine when at all possible. It is also the recommendation of Door County Public Health that at this time that schools continue using the full 14-day quarantine period. We believe this is important for the following reasons;

- Schools setting are congregate settings
- Kids are less likely to have symptoms and as a result can more easily spread the illness without being aware they have it.
- Door County continues to have very high COVID activity
- We anticipate that those numbers could go up related to the upcoming holiday activities and colder weather keeping individuals inside.

We will continue to monitor our situation and meet with school staff on a weekly basis and will revise recommendations when we believe it is safe to do so.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S Powers".

Susan Powers, Health Officer/Public Health Manager